

REMARKS

In an office action dated December 29, 2004, the Examiner rejects claims 1-4 and 8-17. The Examiner also objects to claims 5-7. Claims 18-30 are allowed. In response to the office action, Applicants cancel claims 1-17, amend claims 18, 20, and 28, and add claims 31-36. Claims 18-36 remain pending in the application. In light of the above amendments, Applicants respectfully request that claims 18-36 and this application be allowed.

Claim 28 is amended to correct a typographical error and add a period to the sentence.

Applicants have amended claims 18 and 20 to correct the claims in that originally claim 18 claimed a narrower range than claim 20. In the amended claims, claim 18 recites the broader range and claim 20 recites the narrower range. Thus, no new matter is entered by this amendment and Applicants respectfully request that the allowance of claims 18 and 20 be upheld.

Claims 31-34 are added to define the range of actual separation between the active and passive waveguide. No new matter is added from these claims.

Claims 35 and 36 are added to define the material surrounding the active and passive waveguides. Support for these claims may be found in the specification at page 6, lines 25 to 30. Thus, no new matter is entered. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request claims 31-36 be allowed as dependent claims of an allowable claim.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 775-586-9500.

Respectfully submitted,
SIERRA PATENT GROUP, LTD.

Dated: *31 May 2005*


William P. Wilbar
Reg. No.: 43,265

Sierra Patent Group, Ltd.
P.O. Box 6149
Stateline, NV 89449
(775) 586-9500 Telephone
(775) 586-9550 Facsimile